THEBELDING BANNER WORSE THAN SLAVES.

Published Every Thursday Afternoon

COWDIN & LAPHAM, -AT-

RELDING, (IONIA CO.,) MICH.

Office in the People's Savings Bank block, Main street.

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Marriage and death notices free.
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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH-Ser vices at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sabbath Schoo at close of morning service. Prayer meeting o Thursday evening. Rev. O. J. Golden, Pasto CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—Services at 10:30 a, m. and 7:30 p. m. Sabbath School at at 12:45 a. m. Prayer meeting on Thursday eve-

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s! See Jenks & Co. before E. E. JENKS & CO.

NEGRO COLONISTS LURED TO A MEX-ICAN SIBERIA

Twelve Hundred People Taken From Various Southern States Surrounded by Armed Stards Escaped Persons Relate Tales of Awful Brutality.

Some months ago a scheme was formulated whereby a few men hoped to get rich. This was to settle a section of land which had been obtained from the Mexican government with negroes from the southern states. The project was heralded far and wide, and when the missionary efforts of the schemers began they readily found many persons willing to go to the strange country under the promises made them of an easy life and eventual independence as a reward of industry.

The advertisements offered glowing inducements to the negroes. Railroad fare was to be advanced, to be paid back out of crops made in four years. Clothing, provisions, medicine, etc., were also to be ad-In fact, a picture was drawn of a regular El Dorado.

The advertisements, seconded by the smooth tongues of negroes in whom they trusted, secured about 1,300 men, women and children for the enterprise. More than 1,200 of these poor people are still kept there by armed guards, worked under a system of slavery worse than Russian exiles in Siberia, without the comforts and many of the necessaries of life, with no schools or churches, without even the privacy of sleeping apartments, with no hope of succor, save through the federal government of the United States, which may not take steps for their deliverance for months

From their arrival in Mexico the colonists began to be disillusioned. They were loaded in wagons and taken 30 miles into the country. The advertisement read that the colony was on a railroad.

When they finally arrived, however, they found that they had been swindled. No houses were there, and they were compelled to sleep as best they could. They had been told not to bring bedding, as it would be provided; they had the cold earth for a mattress and the sky for a cover.

The company began putting up quarters for them, however, and as fast as one pen was completed as many as could crowd in slept there. The quarters are built of adobe bricks-sunburned clay-in the form of a square, with gates strongly guarded. Front walls there are none, and any one may see anything transpiring in the front section. Each of these pens is about eight feet square. It will thus be seen that no privacy whatever is possible.

To make this a more serious matter the water is strongly impregnated with alkali and causes a very severe form of diarrhea. which has caused several deaths. The medical attendance is confined to a

Mexican, who is drunk all the while, and who uses quinine as a prescription in ev-

The commissary established by the company and controlled by the only white man in the colony, a German, dispenses food. This consists of a small piece of meat, a handful of cracked corn and once a week a little lard and rice

Coffee is also given out once a week on Saturday nights

All are compelled to work together. The day begins with the first signs of dawn. Mexicans hitch up the teams, so that there will be no chance of any escaping by means of a stolen mule. All day long the labor goes on, Mexican guards armed with heavy revolvers and well mounted keeping close watch that none gets away. Nightfall ends the day. The workmen are allowed to return to the quarters at midday for a meal, but this was only gained after a quasi mutiny.

Sunday is a day of rest only because the colonists absolutely refuse to work on that day. No rations are issued, the guards saying, "No work, no eat."

Mexican peons work on Sunday, and the negroes are told that their "share" of the crops will be taken to pay for this labor, which is a form of robbery which can be upheld by the courts

Negroes cannot buy land, for they receive no wages. The company promised that no commissary would be established, and that the laborer would be paid in cash.

Not a cent has been given out. Escapes have been few, though many attempts have been made. When a negro who has got away is recaptured, he is tied and put in jail until he agrees to return to

There are now about 20 men and women who have made their way to Texas. Most of these are in San Antonio, more of them

in Engle Pass. The latest escapes, so far as heard from, were three women, two of them with ba-bies in their arms. They had made their way to within 200 miles of Eagle Pass, and then, overcome by exhaustion and

lack of food and water, they lay down by the railroad. A train crew of white men found them and brought them to Ciudad Porfirio Diaz, whence they crossed to Eagle Pass -St. Louis Republic

Cheap Method of Sea Signals.

A cheap and practical method of signaling between vessels at sea is suggested by Superintendent Houghton in his annual report. He advances the scheme of employing a long strip of canvas, upon which is printed in large black letters the

name of the vessel displaying it.

With a spreader and lanyards at the end it could be shown between the rigging to advantage. The reverse side of this canvas could easily be blackened and used as a blackboard By means of chalk ciphers a long distance conversation could be carreid on readily between vessels.—New York World

Almost El Dorado,

The tide of South American revolution has now swept to Ecuador That is the only country in South America where there has not been a revolution or an armed insurrection against the government within the last three years -Buffalo Express

Henry Clay knew personally and re-membered the names of thousands of his constituents. It was his strong point during a canvasa.

In 1901 ab ox was sold at Cambridge for 13 shillings. The price of oxen there now

EDMUNDS ON SILVER.

The Ex-Senator From Vermont Gives His Views on Currency.

Ex-Senator Edmunds of Vermont, who has been in Washington for some days, is deeply concerned over the probable results of the present agitation in favor of the unlimited free coinage of silver at the ratio

"Do you agree with Senator Allison that the adoption of the gold standard was a mistake?" was asked him.

"I do not," answered the ex-senator, with considerable emphasis. "The mistake lies in the fact that we have not stuck to it. The whole trouble lies in the fact, which always has existed and always will exist, that people are in debt. If there were no debts to pay, there would never be a word said about the character of the cur-rency of the country. Until human nature shall have been reconstructed there will always be the struggle to discharge financial obligations at the least cost. If a man borrows \$100 this year, and, being a farmer, must produce 100 bushels of potatoes to meet the obligation, and, when the debt becomes due, he can discharge it in a currency that requires but 50 bushels, he will be very apt to use that form of money.

"There is no witchery, no magical power, inherent in gold and silver, or either of them, that takes them out of the category which includes all other metals. They are subject to the law of demand and supply, and the idea that, by the expression of somebody's will, this condition can be changed is what makes trouble."

'Do you apprehend any serious results from the present agitation?" was asked. "Unless it be met by a campaign of information and intelligence, many persons who do not take note of circumstances within their own observation, and who do not know the history of all similar move-ments, will be led astray. Finding nothing to refute the assertions made in speeches and publications of the silver propaganda, those to whom they are addressed will conclude that they are true The duty of the patriot, especially the young patriot, is to engage in this campaign."-New York Herald.

FOUND THROUGH A NOVEL.

Octavia Clouston Hears of Relations In Orkney, N. B.

Octavia Clouston, the authoress who wrote" A Title Rejected," is daily reminded that her book is widely read by the receipt of letters from persons many of whom are too ardent admirers to suit her

few days ago in the shape of a letter dated West Nether Bigging. Stennes. Orkney, N. B.

Without ceremony the writer addresses the authoress as "Dear Consin." He says parties to commence treatment. he is the eldest son by second marriage of the late T. Clouston and "name son" of Cameron, the writer pressure there of the authoress, and the strange part ination. of it is that Mrs. Clouston thinks he may mere child and has no recollection of her parents. The writer adds that the heirs of Edward Clouston "are wanted," as he left considerable property when he emigrated to America.

An estate which is purported to belong to the Clouston family, of which the authoress is convinced she is a member, is now awaiting claimants in Wheeling. Mrs Clouston's identity was discovered through her book . The authoress' name attracted the attention of the Orkney island relatives, who claim exclusive right to the name of Clouston.-New York World.

SHE WAS A WONDER.

Catharine Scott Was 103 Years Old, Yet Had Not a Gray Hair.

In the death of Catharine Scott, which occurred recently, Brooklyn lost its oldest inhabitant. Her descendants, which in clude 12 grandchildren and 45 great-grandchildren, are confident that she was at least 103 years old. She was born in County Cavan, Ireland. Soon after her marriage, which did not take place until she was 29 years old, she came to this country and settled in Brooklyn. .

her faculties until a few hours before her druggists, death. She was of dark complexion, medium height and of slight build, weighing only 90 pounds. She had not a single gray hair in her head, and her memory was s perfect that she could clearly recall incidents which occurred over half a century

Her death resulted from a shock following a fall. She was an early riser all her life and occasionally indulged in a whisky punch or a glass of ale. Dr. Ford, the attendant physician, said that the old woman's lungs were almost perfect.-New

The advance fever will next strike the and 50 cent bottles for sale by Holmes. horse growers. Consumption goes steadily on, but for two successive years breed-ing operations have been restricted. The country will soon wake up to the fact that enough driving horses are not coming on to fill the places of the crippled, wornout and dying, and then there will be an eager

scramble to buy The breeders who have sacrificed their studs will fill the air with lamentations while those who nursed hope through dark hours and continued to breed high will reap the harvest. All the signs point to a revival of the horse breeding industry -Turf. Field and Farm.

Memorial Day In Florida.

The Florida house of representatives has passed a bill providing that the 26th of April shall be observed as a legal holiday for the purpose of decorating the graves of Confederate soldiers. Says the Florida Times Union "The day is an anniver-sary, not of secession, but of the close of the strife, and this fact makes it, while an expression of loyalty to the memory of the Confederate dead, not a sign of disloyalty to the nation, which embraces south as well as north.

A Footbardy Seventy-year-old.

Robert McCallium, a 70-year-old Nova Scotian expects to start from New York in May on an attempt to cross the ocean alone in a small open boat, only 19 feet on the keel. He should know better at his years - Boston Journal.

BELDING, MICH., APRIL 30

At Hotel Bricker From 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Consumption No Longer An Incurable Disease by my new methods of Treatment. No Experiment. One Month Free.

DR. A. E. ELMER The Great Clarivoyant Physician

The Can Tell Your Diseases and Their Causes Without Asking Any Questions. Dr. A. Elmer has attained the most wonderful success in the treatment of the cases to which he gives his special

After years of experience he has liscovered the most infalible method of curing organic weakness, nervous debility, premature decline of manly powers, involuntary vital losses, impaired memory, mental anxiety, absence of the will power, melancholy, weak back and kindred affectionsthose terrible disorders arising from the solitary vice of youth and secret practices, blighting their most radiant hopes or anticipations rendering marriage impossible.

Take one candid thought before it is too late. A week or a month may place

your case beyond the reach of hope. My method of treatment will speeddy and permanently cure the most obstinate cases and absolutely restore perfect manhood. Young men, who have become victims of solitary vice, that dreadful and destructive habit which annually sweeps to an untimely grave thousands of young men of an exalted talent and brilliant intellect, may call with confidence.

Epilepsy or Fits positively cured by new and never failing method.

Curing of Piles guaranteed. Will give five hundred dollars for any cas a failure.

He particularly invites all whose cases have been neglected, badly treated or pronounced incurable. Patients, who are doing well under the care of The latest addition to her mall came a their own physicians need not call on me, as my province is to treat those who can not find relief otherwise.

No money required of responsible

Free Examination of Urine, Each the late "W Clouston of Cameron Mar-shall county" The late W Chauston of Cameron, the writer presumes, is the fa-ther of the authoress and the strange tags

Remarkable cures perfected in old cases which have been neglected or anskillfully treated. No experiments or failures. Parties treated by mail or express, but where possible, person al consultation preferred.

Private parlors, Hotel Bricker. Special terms to all callers before

Persons who sympathize with the afflicted will rejoice with D. E. Carr of 1235 Harrison street, Kansas City. He s an old sufferer from inflammatory rheumatism, but has not heretofore been troubled in this climate. Last winter he went up into Wisconsin, and n consequence has had another attack "It came upon me again very; acute and severe," he said. "My joints swelled and became inflamed; sore to touch or almost to look at. Upon the urgest request of my mother-in-law 1 tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm to reduce the swellings and case the pain, and to my agreeable surprise, it did both. I have used three fifty-cent bottles and believe it to be the finest thing She had three daughters and one son, all for rheumatism, pains and swellings of whom she survived. She retained all extant. For sale by Holmes & Connell

A lady at Tooleys, La., was very sick with bilious colic when M. C. Tiser, a prominent merchant of the town, rave her a bottle of Chamberlain's olic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. He says she was well in forty minutes after taking the first dose. For sale

by Holmes & Connell, druggists. For whooping cough Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is excellent. By using it freely the disease is deprived of all angerous consequences. There is no langer in giving the remedy to babies, Prophesying a Revival In Horse Breeding, as it contains nothing injurious. 25 & Connell, druggists.

This is a Progressive Age.

New and Startling Discoveries are Made Daily.

The greatest discovery for sufferers of cutarrh hay fever, asthma is Mayers' Magnetic Catarrh hay fever, asthma is Mayers' Magnetic Catarrh Cure. Its wonderful cures since its discovery are khown to thousands.

This grand medicine will positively cure all forms of these terrible diseases.

It accomplishes what no other remedy has done. So simple a child can use it. No cure no pay. One bottle will do the work and lasts for a three months treatment. Entirely new, no other remedy made like it. This is what the eminent Dr. Heary Carrington Alexander, D. D. L. D., has to say of its marvelous cure.

The Mayens Dang Co.

D. L. L. D. has to say of its marvelous cure.

THE MAYERS DRUG CO.

Oakland, Md.

Centlemen:—Ever since I have tried your famous catarrh remedy I have intended to give you a voluntary testimonial of its efficiency. I have been a sufferer for years from nasal and nost anal catarrh, and the bone in my nose has been visibly changed in its shape.

After a trial of all manner of good and indifferent recipes, I have no hesitation in pronouncing your Magnetic Catarrh Cure the best, the speediest and most effectual remedy I have yet encountered. I wish and predict your success in the effort to demonstrate the value of your near device in the way of a truly scientific and meritorious inhalant. You have made me your evertasting debtor.

I am my dear sire.

I am my dear sire.
Yours faithfully,
HENNY CARRINGTON ALEXANDER,
Sept. 12th, 18td.

Sold and positively guaranteed by W. I. Ben edict & Co., druggists, Heiding, Mich.

THE RIGHT GOODS

-AT THE-

LOWEST PRICES

Must be had to attract Business. This will hold good as Regards our Grand Assortment of

> + Spring Capes! +

They are Good Things and are Pushing Themselves Along to the Front.

H. J. LEONARD.

"ILLINERY!

New Styles Arriving Daily.

In the Greatest Profusion. All of the Very Latest. I have Just Received a Full Line, and have it on Display

···OVER LEONARD'S STORE. ··· respectfully invite all the Ladies to Give me a Call. It

is a Pleasure for us to Show our Handsome Stock of the Very Latest Styles and Designs in HATS AND BONNETS.

Trusting I will Merit a Liberal Share of Your Patronage, I am

Most Respectfully Yours, MRS. M. UNGER.

We

Are to the front on

Green Goods

in Season, and

Garden Seeds,

either in Bulk or Packages. Come our way. We can still wait on a few more customers

ROBINSON & HUDSON.

in the Grocery Department.



The Greeners.

ON'T make any Big Blow or Spread, but come and see us and we will save you money on · · · ·

> Dry Goods,

Spring Capes and Shoes.

C. G. O'BRYON.